

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2500

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: John Carr
(916) 419-2525

January 12, 2005

PR 05-7

**ABC INVESTIGATORS TEAM WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TO
ARREST 7 SUSPECTS FOR FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINORS**

Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), San Diego Sheriff's Department and San Diego Police Department arrested 7 suspects January 8, 2005 in the City of Santee and the East County area of Lakeside for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors.

ABC Investigators and local law enforcement conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

If the adults comply, investigators then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

In addition to the 7 cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor, one store clerk was cited for selling alcohol to a minor, one person was cited for possession of less than one ounce of marijuana, and one minor was arrested for purchasing alcohol.

For more information on the operation, contact the ABC district administrator or district supervisor at Steve Ernst at 619/525-4064.